(iii) Similarly, for medical treatment of specified diseases/ailments, senior citizens can availof enhanced deduction upto Rs. 60,000/- under section 80DDB as against the general limit of Rs. 40,000/-for others.

Govemment is also implementing the Senior Citizens avings Scheme through post offices and bank. Individuals of the age of 60 years and above are eligible to invest under the scheme subject *inter-alia,* to maximum deposit ceiling of Rs. 15 lakhs. Deposits under the scheme carry interest rate of 9% per annum payable on quarterly basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

(d) No proposals to exempt senior citizens from payment of income-tax earned by them on their fixed deposits and on their savings bank account upto a limit of Rs. 15 lakhs per annum, is currently under consideration.

**Loss Making PSUs**

633. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 49 heavy industries are being run in the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) if so, the total number of such industries which are incurring losses for the last several years, particularly those industries located in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the total loss accumulated by these PSUs as on the March 31, 2005;

(d) the total amount invested in these loss making industries during each of the last three years; and

(e) the steps being taken to improve the working of these loss making industries?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) At present, there are 34 Central operating Public Sector Enterprises under the administrative control of the Department of Heavy Industry.

(b) 18 CPSEs out of these 34 have made losses continuously for the last three years. Three of these CPSEs, namely, Bharat Heavty Plates & Vessels Ltd., Prage Tools Ltd. and HMT bearing Ltd. are located in Andhra Pradsh. In addition some of the units of HMT, Hindustan Cables Ltd. and Cement Corporation of India are also located in Andhra Pradsh.

(c) Aggregate accumulated losses of al! CPSEs under DHI as on 31 st March, 2005 water (-) Rs. 13290 crore approx.

(d) Total amount investd in the loss making CPSEs under DHI provided as plan budgetary support by the Government during each of the last three years is as under:—

| | |
|---|---|
| 2003-04 | Rs.54.38 cr. |
| 2004-05 | Rs.35.00cr. |
| 2005-06 | Rs. 185.47 cr. |

(e) The process of revival/restructuring of loss making CPSEs was initiated as per the policy laid down in the National Common Minimum Programme. The Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) is making recommendations on revival and future of the sick PSEs. Government has approved implementation of revival/restructuring packages in case of 10 CPSEs under DHI, based on recommendations of BRPSE.

**Professionalisation of Management of PSUs**

634. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criterion adopted in the process of professionalisation of management of Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) how many of PSUs out of the total PSUs have been professionalised so far;

(c) what is the time-lag normally taken by Government to appoint Board of Directors;

(d) whether it is a fact that it takes a few years in certain cases;